

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 28, 2008

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 22, 2008

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 13, 2008

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY FEBRUARY 26, 2008

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2007–08 REGULAR SESSION

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 79

Introduced by Assembly Member Anderson

(Principal coauthors: Assembly Members Levine, Lieber, Lieu, and Ma)

(Coauthors: Assembly Members ~~Feuer and Portantino~~ Feuer, Portantino, Adams, Aghazarian, Arambula, Bass, Beall, Benoit, Berg, Blakeslee, Brownley, Caballero, Charles Calderon, Carter, Cook, Coto, Davis, De La Torre, De Leon, DeSaulnier, DeVore, Duvall, Emmerson, Evans, Fuentes, Gaines, Galgiani, Garcia, Garrick, Horton, Houston, Huff, Huffman, Jeffries, Jones, Karnette, Keene, Krekorian, La Malfa, Laird, Leno, Maze, Nakanishi, Nava, Niello, Nunez, Parra, Plescia, Price, Sharon Runner, Ruskin, Salas, Saldana, Silva, Smyth, Solorio, Spitzer, Strickland, Swanson, Torrico, Tran, Villines, Walters, and Wolk)

(Coauthor: Senator Steinberg)

January 7, 2008

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 79—Relative to the investments of the University of California.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 79, as amended, Anderson. University of California: divestment from Iran.

This measure would call upon the University of California to fully implement the California Public Divest from Iran Act which prohibits the investment of public employee retirement funds in foreign companies with business activities in the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Fiscal committee: yes.

1 WHEREAS, Chapter 671 of the Statutes of 2007 (AB 221),
2 which created the California Public Divest from Iran Act, was
3 approved by the Senate by a vote of 36 to 0, and by the Assembly
4 by a vote of 76 to 0, and was signed into law by Governor
5 Schwarzenegger on October 14, 2007; and

6 WHEREAS, The California Public Divest from Iran Act
7 prohibits the Public Employees' Retirement System and the State
8 Teachers' Retirement System from investing public employee
9 retirement funds in a company with business operations in Iran
10 that is invested in or engaged in business operations with entities
11 in the defense or nuclear sectors of Iran, or a company that is
12 invested or engaged in business operations with entities involved
13 in the development of petroleum or natural gas resources of Iran,
14 and that company is subject to sanctions under federal law, as
15 specified, or the company is engaged in business operations with
16 an Iranian organization that has been labeled as a terrorist
17 organization by the United States government; and

18 WHEREAS, The University of California currently invests
19 retirement funds in publicly traded foreign companies that may be
20 subject to the Public Employees' Retirement System's and the
21 State Teachers' Retirement System's implementation of the
22 California Public Divest from Iran Act and California law regarding
23 divestment from such companies; and

24 WHEREAS, The University of California should comply with
25 the spirit and intent of Assembly Bill 221; and

26 WHEREAS, Investments in publicly traded foreign companies
27 that have business operations in or with foreign states such as Iran
28 are liable for sanctions under United States law, subject to the
29 California Public Divest from Iran Act, and risk the pensions of
30 the dedicated employees of the University of California who are
31 members of the University of California retirement system, as well
32 as the university's financial holdings generally; and

33 WHEREAS, Divesting from companies subject to the provisions
34 of Assembly Bill 221 and with business activities in foreign states,

1 such as Iran, that sponsor terrorism and excluding them from the
2 investment portfolios of the University of California will help
3 protect the financial security of the University of California from
4 investment losses related to these business activities and may
5 improve the performance of the university's investment portfolios;
6 and

7 WHEREAS, In Assembly Bill 221, the Legislature found that
8 "It is unconscionable for this state to invest in foreign companies
9 with business activities benefiting foreign states such as Iran, that
10 commit egregious violations of human rights and sponsor
11 terrorism"; now, therefore, be it

12 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
13 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature hereby calls upon the
14 University of California to fully implement the provisions of
15 Assembly Bill 221 as to its retirement system investments.

16 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies
17 of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.